

**TERMS \$8.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE**

Reid and his non-Union foreman, Mr. Thomsen, on Saturday, for the purpose of ascertaining how the strike of the Tribune printers originated and how the fight had sped. Some of the incidents narrated in the course of a frank conversation were curious to say least.

morning. The particulars of the scene that occurred in the editorial rooms just prior to strike have not been published, and we are unable to say, in order to show the character of the "Union," whether the men that have taken place in the relations of employers and employed.

In the afternoon of Thursday, June 28, Reid notified a committee of the printers that they were intended to draw out of the ranks of the "Union" a delegation of men to be chairman of the delegation a memorandum which read as follows:

What we want and would like our men to consider:

- I. A reduction in the price of our composition night work to forty cents, and on day work to three cents—or about one-fourth off from the present price.
- II. No work to be done which we don't want can't use—in other words, no bogus, and no alibi work.

III. Work to be done at fair prices in what way we may think most to our interest-by the means of the printer's own plan.

IV. No double-price matter.

This memorandum has already been published, but without the explanation which should have accompanied it. The first section is explained enough. The second section will be explained by the fact that the technicalities of a newspaper office, more simply that printers, like other skilled mechanics, must take their chances of getting called upon to do things that they are not paid to be paid for doing nothing. This means that the foreman of an office is to be foreman-*de-facto* as well as *de-jure*; not to equal his powers to the "Chairman" (a title which is not used) but to enable him to call his fellow workmen to enforce the regulations laid down by the Typographical Union, but

[illegible]

feel the business, and on the following day, the editor of the Tribune, again wrote to the author of the article, and presented to him the following:

[COPY.]

TRIBUNE COMPOSING ROOM,  
 New York, Friday, June 2<sup>d</sup>, 1871.

Dear Sir, Eng.:—  
 We have deliberately and dispassionately considered the four propositions submitted in your memorandum addressed to Mr. Burke & Co. and we have decided to accept of any one of them. If you adhere to your proposition, we hereby tender our resignations to take effect immediately.

(Signed) by all the Tribune printers.

Mr. Reid—Gentlemen, this is short notice. It is now 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and the Tribune has to come out to-morrow morning. Do I understand that you propose to strike to-day?

Chairman—This is not a strike. It is a *negotiation*.

Mr. Reid—I accept it. Good afternoon, and thank you very much.

Chairman (surprised)—But, Mr. Reid, do we compromise this business?

Mr. Reid—I don't see that you have left door open for a compromise. Your decision is that you have "deliberately and definitely rejected the compromise," and you decide that you "cannot accept any one of them." Language could not be plainer, and although the Tribune never has been able to get the people, it will prevent any of them from bettering their condition if they can.

The delegation being thereupon bowed off, the company of some 25 non-Union printers, who had been summoned and the paper "set up" in a short-handed fashion without a "Big Six."

Foreman Thompson, nevertheless, has

On another occasion the stock table in the financial column (set in agats) was spaced-out with type (minion) two sizes larger, and, in the middle, the word "strike" was printed in a larger type than the rest of the words. The result was a specimen of a foreman's tribulations "strike" time.

separate and readjust the fragments. "I'm not a truck the new foreman attributes to Union men," he insists, having been sent into the office to handle the management's relations with the officers of the Union will discontinue the publicity in this business, or punish the men engaged in it. The story smacks too much of the flavor of Charles Reade's *Trade Union novel* to be taken seriously. The management is to be the experiment of buying free labor in the open market for newspaper work has been tried successfully that the Tribune's composition is reduced more than \$700 per week, while the steady employment at an average of \$200 a week—that the average number of "blacksmiths" or inferior workmen, is no greater among non-Union than among Union men. In this case, as in so many recent ones that

attracted public attention, is being narrowly down to the common sense limit of demand. Graphically, the union has been structured to have a total of 2,000 members, of which numbered 2,200 paying members, and is reported to have but 1,300—and that it is for that body to revise its code and to adapt it to the needs of the industry.

The Commercial showed the plain facts in figures in the time of the great strike in 1914 when 40,000 workmen "went out" and lost out for thirty days at a loss to themselves of \$1,000,000. The Commercial said that it ran "a large majority of strikers prefer to the bread of honest industry rather than munch the husks of slyject poverty"—and that in Philadelphia in the printing offices of the Philadelphia Press.

What was true five years ago is true now. army of the unemployed doesn't now

There was the best of generalship in the emergency was met. Every man in the editorial rooms that had ever set a stinkful of volunteered at once to take a case. The editorial staff furnished three compositors, but reporters did themselves proud by furnishing seven, and some of them very good workmen. I took a look into the composing room about 11 o'clock. Reid was foreman and the editor rolled into one, and the whole staff working with a will. Some of the boys paid their way through college with typesetting, and one was the son of a well known league president; others had been graduated

developed smokes. One and all were very nervous, and I was not alone in being so. I was with but a single letter wrong. Besides the fact there were perhaps twenty composers who had been gathered in. Down stairs the editorial staff were condensing the material from the reports and the minutes of the meeting, and the copy boys were busy with the composition lighter, and reading proof, and everything was running smoothly, and the work seemed to be getting a good deal out of its stride. I was at a typographical picnic. Away down in the street was a big crowd of soldiers, in awe by the policemen, but crying "Reds" to their hearts' content, and predicting that they would have to call them back before midnight. I was on time, and I was charged on fifty dollars. I was not alone in being so. I was with a thousand. When they were all out on time, with its ten big pages, all in the shape, they made up their minds that they mistaken their man.

came before the strike, where precautions were taken against a breach of faith on the part of the men. A list was prepared of the men who could be had at a moment's notice. News of the strike was received by the company on the night of the 10th, and the men were notified of the setting of type, where the idea of preparing for trouble. Every point of the sort was prepared for, for instance, the men were told that if they were to be "fired," they would be paid for the work they had done, and that they would be paid for the work they had done, and that they would be paid for the work they had done.

Typographical union were warned not to allow under any circumstances or at any price. So blow them out of the water.

The Tribune, however, has no change in the situation. It is still as strong, as usual, as the blow.

The Tribune force are on of situations. They were out with their eyes open. Mr. Reid said to them that if they struck after pledging that they would not strike, they would never receive the service of the paper.

Twenty or thirty years' service of some of them could not atone for such a trick, and he knew it. This word better than they did their own. They were not to be taken in.

Killed Typographical Union No. 6. No blow has ever been struck before at this word and powerful trade union.—*Correspondence Clinton Commercial.*

The failure of Valentine Doane, Jr., of Portsmouth, N. H., fish merchant, is announced.

With liabilities of \$100,000. Creditors met Friday. His suspension is caused by the sure of other parties with whom he has been transacting business.











